



# COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

900 SOUTH FREMONT AVENUE  
ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91803-1331  
Telephone: (626) 458-5100  
<http://dpw.lacounty.gov>

GAIL FARBER, Director

ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:  
P.O. BOX 1460  
ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91802-1460

June 21, 2011

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of Los Angeles  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

# ADOPTED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

21 June 21, 2011

*Sachi A. Hamai*  
SACHI A. HAMAI  
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

### **DOMINGUEZ GAP BARRIER PROJECT CONDITION ASSESSMENT CONSULTANT SERVICES AGREEMENT (SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS 2 AND 4) (3 VOTES)**

#### **SUBJECT**

This action is to award and authorize entering into a consultant services agreement with CH2M Hill to perform a condition assessment for the Dominguez Gap Barrier Project.

#### **IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD ACTING AS THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT:**

Award and delegate authority to the Chief Engineer or her designee, on behalf of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District, to contract with CH2M Hill to perform a condition assessment for the Dominguez Gap Barrier Project for a total contract amount of \$1,100,000. Funds for this project are available in the Fiscal Year 2010-11 Flood Control District Budget. Under a previously executed agreement, the City of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power and the Water Replenishment District of Southern California will each reimburse the Los Angeles County Flood Control District for approximately one-third of the cost to perform the study, up to \$333,000 each.

#### **PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The purpose of the recommended action is to conduct a condition assessment of the Dominguez Gap Barrier Project (DGBP) infrastructure. The Los Angeles County Flood District (LACFCD) owns and operates the DGBP; which consists of injection wells, observation wells, water supply lines,

pressure-reduction facilities, and related appurtenances for the purpose of injecting water. Freshwater and recycled water is injected into the underlying aquifers to develop a pressure ridge that prevents seawater from intruding into and degrading the underground source of potable water supply. Due to the age and recent repairs to the DGBP, the LACFCD seeks to assess the condition of selected wells, the water supply lines, valves, and appurtenances through a consultant services agreement. The assessment will recommend repairs, improvements, and measures to prevent future shutdowns in an effort to protect the underground water supply source from seawater intrusion. The Department of Public Works (Public Works) will return to your Board to request approval to implement any projects that may arise as a result of this assessment.

### **Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals**

The Countywide Strategic Plan directs the provisions of Operational Effectiveness (Goal 1) and Community and Municipal Services (Goal 3). The recommended action will help achieve these goals by maximizing the effectiveness of the County of Los Angeles' (County) infrastructure and ensuring that County residents receive quality infrastructure services. The LACFCD will receive reimbursement funding for approximately two-thirds of the cost to perform the assessment, up to \$666,000.

### **FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING**

There will be no impact to the County General Fund.

This agreement is for a total contract amount of \$1,100,000, which includes \$98,557 for contingencies that may arise during the progress of the work. Funding for this agreement is available in the Fiscal Year 2010-11 Flood Control District Budget. Additional work within this allowance will not be performed without prior written authorization from the Chief Engineer.

On April 19, 2011, your Board authorized the Chief Engineer to enter into a cooperative agreement with the City of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) and the Water Replenishment District of Southern California (WRD) to perform a condition assessment of the DGBP. Under this cooperative agreement, LADWP and WRD will each reimburse LACFCD for approximately one-third of the cost to perform the assessment, up to \$333,000 each.

### **FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS**

The project specifications contain provisions requiring the contractor to comply with the terms and conditions supporting your Board's ordinances, policies, and programs, including but not limited to: County's Greater Avenues for Independence (GAIN) and General Relief Opportunities for Work (GROW) Programs, Board Policy No. 5.050; Contract Language to Assist in Placement of Displaced County Workers, Board Policy No. 5.110; Reporting of Improper Solicitations, Board Policy No. 5.060; Notice to Contract Employees of Newborn Abandonment Law (Safely Surrendered Baby Law), Board Policy No. 5.135; Contractor Employee Jury Service Program, Los Angeles County Code, Chapter 2.203; Notice to Employees Regarding the Federal Earned Income Credit (Federal Income Tax Law, Internal Revenue Service Notice 1015); Contractor Responsibility and Debarment, Los Angeles County Code, Chapter 2.202; the Los Angeles County's Child Support Compliance Program, Los Angeles County Code, Chapter 2.200; Defaulted Property Tax Reduction Program Ordinance, Los Angeles County Code, Chapter 2.206; and the standard Board-directed clauses that

provide for contract termination or renegotiation.

The project specifications contain provisions requiring the contractor to report solicitations of improper consideration by County employees and allowing the County to terminate the contract if it is found that the contractor offered or gave improper consideration to County employees.

A standard agreement, previously approved as to form by County Counsel, will be used. The standard Board-directed clauses that provide for contract termination, renegotiation, and hiring qualified displaced County employees will be included.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION**

On April 19, 2011, your Board found that this project is statutorily exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to section 15262 of the CEQA guidelines. This exemption provides for feasibility or planning studies for possible future actions, which have not been approved, adopted, or funded.

### **CONTRACTING PROCESS**

On February 14, 2011, Public Works, acting on behalf of the LACFCD, issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) to 62 firms to evaluate the condition DGBP wells and water supply facilities. Four consulting firms responded to the RFP. An evaluation committee, comprised of staff from Public Works, LADWP, and WRD, evaluated the proposals and determined that CH2M Hill is the most qualified and responsible proposer to provide the required services. The evaluation was based on technical expertise, proposed work plan, experience, personnel qualifications, and understanding of the work requirements. The evaluation was completed without regard to race, creed, color, or gender.

As requested by your Board on February 3, 1998, this contract opportunity was listed on the County's "Doing Business with Us" website.

Participation by Community Business Enterprises (CBEs) in the project is encouraged through Public Works' CBE Outreach Program and the requirement that consultants demonstrate their good faith efforts to utilize CBEs. CH2M Hill is aware of Public Works' CBE Outreach Program, and its proposed CBE participation is on file with Public Works.

### **IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)**

The condition assessment will evaluate the DGBP infrastructure and recommend repairs and improvements to Public Works' infrastructure to protect our groundwater supply from seawater intrusion.

**CONCLUSION**

Please return one adopted copy of this letter to the Department of Public Works, Water Resources Division.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gail Farber".

GAIL FARBER  
Director

GF:CS:abc

c: Chief Executive Office (Rita Robinson)  
County Counsel  
Executive Office  
Department of Public Social Services  
(GAIN/GROW Program)